

# Novel Pharmacotherapies for Smoking Cessation

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Given societal pressures against smoking, the majority of current smokers are either involved in or interested in quitting smoking. However, many smokers find it very hard to quit smoking and either fail to try or fail when they make an attempt. With the exception of bupropion, all FDA-approved pharmacotherapies for smoking cessation involve nicotine replacement. Novel pharmacotherapies are needed to address the needs of many smokers who do not respond to existing treatments. An understanding of how treatment response is influenced by individual differences, such as heavy alcohol use and gender, will be important to helping a greater proportion of the remaining smokers quit successfully. New treatments will need to address different aspects of smoking relapse that may be independent of acute withdrawal, including the ability of alcohol to prime tobacco craving and subsequent relapse, problems that persist beyond acute abstinence, as well as concerns that may prevent individuals from making a quit attempt (e.g., weight gain). In order to illustrate these issues, research on naltrexone and selegiline will be discussed as well as specific research strategies that may help move the field forward.